GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6121
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
DEMAND OF STEEL
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for steel has been increasing in the domestic as well as international market;

(b) if so, the demand and supply of steel in the domestic market during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to save the steel industry in public as well as the private sector?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Demand for steel is estimated by the proxy variable ` Apparent Consumption of Steel` defined as `Production + Imports- Exports` adjusted for changes in stocks. Supply of steel, on the other hand, depends primarily on production and imports. The following table shows movements in these categories during the last three years.

Demand and Availability of Finished Steel between 2000-01 and 2002-03

(Million Tonnes)

Categories	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Production	29.267	30.635	32.916
Imports	1.417	1.271	1.550
Exports	2.664	2.704	3.700
Interplant Transfers	1.369	1.875	2.050
Variation in Stock	0.125	-0.111	-0.250
Apparent Consumption	26.526	27.438	28.966

(c) In tune with its policy, function and role in a liberalized economy, the Union Government monitors the general conditions within which an industry operates and through its budgetary process and other policy programmes, it provides benefits/general incentives to various sectors of the economy, including steel. The incentives are based on the assessment of the problems faced by the industry and the growth prospects of that sector.